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[Front Fender Trim Write Up \(Retaining the stock flare\)](#)

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06-27-2006



FitchVA

NAXJA Member # 697

#31 [A](#) [G](#) [P](#)

Join Date: May 2003
Location: Roanoke, VA
Posts: 1,343



Re: Front Fender Trim Write Up (Retaining the stock flare)

awesome writeup i like how you kept more of the front flare than i did. but i just couldn't deal with that extra open space from where the flare kicked out around the lower 1/4 panel. so i cut from there. but yours looks awesome.

there's not a lot of room to move the rear flares up unless you span the rear door.

i lined mine up as close to the door seam as possible...

['98 xj sport \(trail toy\) | specs](#)

['98 xj classic \(dd'er\) | specs](#)

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07-01-2006



53guy

USMC Heavy Lift Inc.

#32 [A](#) [G](#) [P](#)

Join Date: Mar 2005
Location: Fredericksburg, VA
Posts: 1,933



Re: Front Fender Trim Write Up (Retaining the stock flare)

For all those who've been waiting, I finally finished the rear. Here is the linky

<http://www.naxja.org/forum/showthread.php?t=90022> Thanks guys!



07-02-2006



53guy

USMC Heavy Lift Inc.

#33 [A](#) [G](#) [P](#)

Join Date: Mar 2005
Location: Fredericksburg, VA
Posts: 1,933



Re: Front Fender Trim Write Up (Retaining the stock flare)

Ok, so I took the wife out found a some logging trails and we did some test flex. So far I haven't been able to scrub in the rear and I need to do a bit of tuning to the fender liner in the front. In the front, I don't rub any metal at all and like I said, I don't have the weight to fully stuff my rear end. I think if I connected my sway bar in the front I might be able to flex it enough to stuff it, but I didn't have the time. I removed all the rubber bump stop I could with my knife, but I didn't have the tools to remove it all the way, but I'm down to just the Full Traction bumpstop now! Its so nice to be able to go over anything without rubbing any more!!! So if you've been thinking about trimming and you haven't convinced yourself that going fenderless is the way to go and you hate the look of bushwackers, I definately think these trim jobs are the way to go for you. I kept the stock flares, I kept the stock hardware, I kept the stock look, and gained enough room to fully stuff my BFG 35x12.50's to the point that I couldn't flex any farther without crazy long brake lines and limiting straps. As you can see in the pictures, my springs were out of the seats, so if that's not enough flex for you, I'm not sure what else you need, so I hope these write ups were helpful for you and gave you the reassurance that you needed to go and do a bit of trimming! Good luck and good wheeling!









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Hope you enjoyed all the pictures and if you need more, please let me know and I'd be happy to take some more for you if you can't find them on my fototime site (linky found in my signature).



07-02-2006

#34  

sp4mike 
NAXJA Forum User

Join Date: Feb 2006
Location: Fort Eustis
Posts: 60

Re: Front Fender Trim Write Up (Retaining the stock flare)

Looks great. Cant wait to see it in person.



07-02-2006

#35  



53guy 
USMC Heavy Lift Inc.

Join Date: Mar 2005
Location: Fredericksburg, VA
Posts: 1,933



Re: Front Fender Trim Write Up (Retaining the stock flare)

yeah mike, I'm finally in the clear....I can run all the trails now disco'ed!



07-02-2006

#36  

sp4mike 
NAXJA Forum User

Join Date: Feb 2006
Location: Fort Eustis
Posts: 60

Re: Front Fender Trim Write Up (Retaining the stock flare)

It's too bad they closed Conway. It was a nice trail ride. Hope to see you at Crozet though.



07-06-2006

#37 

outlawjeep

Jeep addict

Join Date: Jul 2003
Location: Hampton, VA
Posts: 103

Re: Front Fender Trim Write Up (Retaining the stock flare)

Dude that things is pretty nice now. Wanna help me do mine?

Ray



07-06-2006

#38 

Join Date: Nov 2004
Location: San Diego
Posts: 396

Re: Front Fender Trim Write Up (Retaining the stock flare)

Great looking rig all the way around.



07-18-2006

#39 

XJumpmaster

Jumpin' Jeeper #1748

Join Date: May 2006
Location: Sandy, Ut
Posts: 727

Re: Front Fender Trim Write Up (Retaining the stock flare)

Thanks for the write up! It definitely made things easier! I trimmed 2" on the front, havent done the back yet.(I'll wait for bigger tires to do that)

Any time you can convince some of yer pilots to fly to Utah, I'm pretty sure we've got some guys that would love to jump a 53! Maybe hit Moab after the Jump! LOL

Thanks again!
Josh



07-18-2006

#40 

Join Date: Oct 2005
Location: Albuquerque, NM
Posts: 472

Re: Front Fender Trim Write Up (Retaining the stock flare)

awesome dude. I'm thinking of doing that on mine. I'm already trimmed and I'm not too keen on the look of TJ flares on many XJs 😊



08-19-2006

#41

EZridaz

NAXJA Forum User

Join Date: Dec 2004
Location: Charleston, WV
Posts: 76**Re: Front Fender Trim Write Up (Retaining the stock flare)**

Looks good man!!!! Doing the front of mine today... Bump for a kick arse writeup



08-23-2006

#42

SteelblueSteve

NAXJA Member #1179

Join Date: Oct 2004
Location: Channahon, Illinois
Posts: 289**Re: Front Fender Trim Write Up (Retaining the stock flare)**

I just got done trimming mine following 53guys write ups, front and rear, thanks for the great posts and photos. When it came time to do the hole on the front drivers side where the drill will make contact with the washer fluid bottle , I shoved a small piece of 1x6 deck board I had lying around the garage up inbetween the front quarter and the bottle to block the drill on break through. Worked well.



08-26-2006

#43

**chelms27**

PKS Engineer

Join Date: Jul 2006
Location: Nebraska
Posts: 488**Re: Front Fender Trim Write Up (Retaining the stock flare)**

What is the best/cheapest/most often used tools used to cut the fenders? Dremel toll/ tin snips? I am going to do mine one I get my new lift in!! Thanks



08-26-2006

#44

EZridaz

NAXJA Forum User

Join Date: Dec 2004
Location: Charleston, WV
Posts: 76**Re: Front Fender Trim Write Up (Retaining the stock flare)**

I would go with a Dremel .I used a dremel on mine and they came out really good with nice edges minus a bur here and there.If you do go Dremel get the reinforced discs as they last alot longer than the regular ones.You will use about 2-3 per fender if you dont make them smoke and burn them up.



08-26-2006

#45

**53guy**

USMC Heavy Lift Inc.

Join Date: Mar 2005
Location: Fredericksburg, VA
Posts: 1,933**Re: Front Fender Trim Write Up (Retaining the stock flare)**

I used an angle grinder. It works wonderful and makes quick work of it all.



09-30-2006

#46

**Big Red**

Jeep Addict 4 life ;-)

Join Date: Apr 2003
Location: Roscoe, IL 61073
Posts: 3,002

Re: Front Fender Trim Write Up (Retaining the stock flare)

Nice write up. I have a 91' XJ on 37" MTRs with 8" lift and I've hacked up the fenders pretty good and use TJ flares.

I'm just itching big time to run my brother-in-law's TJ dana 30 with 4.88 gears, Lockrite, heavy duty steering and his rear early Bronco 9" with 4.88 gears, spool, and 31 spline alloys 5 on 4.5 on my daily driver 98' XJ 2dr. He is going HP44/9" full width like my 91' on his 91' wheeler.

I want to fit 33's with 3" lift so I don't need to mess with control arms, SYE, etc etc so I need all the fender trimming possible to do this. Kind of like opening up a can of worms when you have 4.88 geared axle you would like to run to replace the stock 3.07 gears in my 98' with a 5 speed, then you have to run bigger tires, some lift, fender trimming, etc etc. 😊

I plan to do light trail stuff, anything not to make me feel that my 91' on 37's is neglected. 😊

Those SS emblems are awesome. I don't know what model you have, but if you have a Sport from the factory....with all your mods you now have a Super Sport. I want those for my black 98' 2 dr XJ, those red emblems look good against a dark color like black, dark blue, etc.

Last edited by Big Red : 09-30-2006 at 10:55.



09-30-2006

#47



Trailbst

NAXJA Memeber #1401

Join Date: Nov 2003
Location: Westerly, RI
Posts: 329

**Re: Front Fender Trim Write Up (Retaining the stock flare)**

Your trimming looks good.

We didn't take any pictures while trimming mine, but if anyone wants ideas for the rear, there are pictures of mine in this thread

<http://www.naxja.org/forum/showthread.php?t=98678>

Stock flares trimmed, with 35s and 4.5" of lift.

Erik



10-26-2006

#48



53guy

USMC Heavy Lift Inc.

Join Date: Mar 2005
Location: Fredericksburg, VA
Posts: 1,933

**Re: Front Fender Trim Write Up (Retaining the stock flare)**

Quote:

Originally Posted by **Trailbst**
Your trimming looks good.

We didn't take any pictures while trimming mine, but if anyone wants ideas for the rear, there are pictures of mine in this thread

<http://www.naxja.org/forum/showthread.php?t=98678>

Stock flares trimmed, with 35s and 4.5" of lift.

Erik

Looking good.



02-01-2007

#49  

white_elephant 

NAXJA Forum User

Join Date: Feb 2007

Location: miami

Posts: 156

Re: Front Fender Trim Write Up (Retaining the stock flare)

i know this is old but i need to ask...

did you cut the flare too???

or how did you put it up with out moddifinf the rear??



02-01-2007

#50  



53guy 

USMC Heavy Lift Inc.

Join Date: Mar 2005
 Location: Fredericksburg, VA
 Posts: 1,933




Re: Front Fender Trim Write Up (Retaining the stock flare)

Quote:

Originally Posted by **white_elephant**
i know this is old but i need to ask...

did you cut the flare too???

or how did you put it up with out moddifinf the rear??

I'm not so sure what you're asking about the rear and all, but in step 11, I mentioned trimming the back side of the flare to match your body line. So I guess yeah, the flare was trimmed slightly. 



02-01-2007

#51  

white_elephant 

NAXJA Forum User

Join Date: Feb 2007

Location: miami

Posts: 156

Re: Front Fender Trim Write Up (Retaining the stock flare)

thanks...by the way i love ur rig



02-01-2007

#52



53guy
USMC Heavy Lift Inc.

Join Date: Mar 2005
Location: Fredericksburg, VA
Posts: 1,933

**Re: Front Fender Trim Write Up (Retaining the stock flare)**

Not a problem, did that answer your question? Thanks for the compliment!



04-30-2007

#53

xen0wh0re
NAXJA Forum User

Join Date: Jan 2007
Location: New Jersey
Posts: 2

**Re: Front Fender Trim Write Up (Retaining the stock flare)**

did anyone use a cut off wheel to cut and bend these things?



since i dont have a lift yet, ive hearde that, if you flex enough, that can cut your tire open. ive hearde you can get a cut off wheel and cut the weld marks and bend them so theyre not sharp. my question is, do i have to use a cut off wheel? or is there something else i can use, like, a sawzall or something?



04-30-2007

#54



FitchVA
NAXJA Member # 697

Join Date: May 2003
Location: Roanoke, VA
Posts: 1,343

Re: Front Fender Trim Write Up (Retaining the stock flare)

you don't want to cut that section out. instead you want to cut slits in it and beat it in flat. much like you do in the rear fenders of XJ's. so i guess you could use whatever you wanted to make the slits. i used a Dremel

'98 xj sport (trail toy) | [specs](#)
'98 xj classic (dd'er) | [specs](#)
[My XJ Page](#) | [My Gallery](#)



04-30-2007

#55

xen0wh0re
NAXJA Forum User

Join Date: Jan 2007
Location: New Jersey
Posts: 2

Re: Front Fender Trim Write Up (Retaining the stock flare)

an electric dremel should do it then, right?



04-30-2007

#56



53guy
USMC Heavy Lift Inc.

Join Date: Mar 2005
Location: Fredericksburg, VA
Posts: 1,933

Re: Front Fender Trim Write Up (Retaining the stock flare)

Yeah, buy a ton of blades though. I used an angle grinder. Took about 3 min a side to cut and about 30 seconds a side to beat it in with a hammer. Simple enough. Check out post 22. Got covered there....



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5-90*

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